serves as a blueprint for States/UTs for policy and programmatic interventions for prevention of Trafficking and rescue and rehabilitaiton of victims. The State Governments have also constituted Coordination Committees and have taken action to notify special police officers; set up advisory boards for social workers and NGOs; conducting of regular raids in red light areas. In case of rescue of Nepali girls, steps are taken for their repatriation.

The SAARC countries have pledged to coordinate and take effective measures under the SAARC Convention of Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution, which have been ratified by the Member Countries at the Eleventh SAARC Summit held at Kathmandu in January, 2002. Through this Convention, it is hoped to promote and foster regional cooperation to deal with various aspects of this problem.

Increments to lecturers with Ph.D.

1418. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allowed benefit of two increments to Lecturers with Ph.D. when they are promoted to Selection Grade as Reader, *vide* para 1(ii) (c) of letter No. F.1-22/97-UI dated the 27th July, 1998;

(b) whether the above benefit has not been allowed so far to some promotee Readers having Ph.D. in Central Hindi Sansthan, Agra, inspite of Delhi High Court's directions and UGC's clarification in this regard; and

(c) if so, the justification therefor and by when such Readers would be given benefit of two increments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Kendriya Hindi Sansthan is being instructed to take appropriate action in the matter of grant of advance increments to the eligile Readers/Selection Grade Lecturers in the light of clarifications recently furnished by UGC.

Foreign visits by educational/literary/cultural delegations

†1419. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of educational, literary and cultural delegations made officials foreign visits from March, 1998 to December, 2001;

(b) if so, the number of delegations who made foreign visits in connection with separate subjects; and

(c) when and which countries were visited by the delegations and the number of Government employees and private citizens, who accompanied the delegations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Deletion of passages from history books

1420. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NCERT has recently deleted certain passages from the history text-books for schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the NCERT chief had publicly stated that from now onwards, the content of history text-books would also be determined by the fact as to whether they had religious sensitivities of different communities; and

(d) the name of experts who have been engaged by the NCERT to conduct this exercise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per information received from NCERT class-wise and book-wise details as also pages containing such portions in the identified history text-books are as under:

Book 1 (Ancident India) — Class VI—Romila Thapar, Reprint 2001, pages 40-41.

Book 2 (Modern India) — Class VII—Arjun Dev and Indira Arjun Dev, Reprint 2001, page 21.